

S/N 09/702,093
Docket no. 15260
Filed October 30, 2000

Claim 13 (twice amended): The aqueous imbibing solution of claim 10 further consisting essentially of an additive selected from the group consisting of wetting agents, defoamers, surfactants and combinations thereof.

REMARKS

In light of the restriction requirement, Applicants request that the Title of the Application be amended to more closely reflect the subject matter of the remaining claims. Applicants also request that the claims be amended to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 – 13 under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Battrell (US Patent 4,292,035).

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 – 13 under 35 USC §102(b or e) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Sakkab (US Patent 4,255,273), Cheng (US Patent 4,409,136), Ives et al. (US Patent 4,514,444), or Dovey et al. (US Patent 6,200,944).

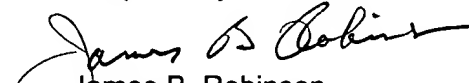
In our previous response (dated 9/17/02), Applicants argued that the cited references all required additional components that would make the instant invention unworkable or would be in conflict with Applicants' teachings, and would therefore not be considered by those skilled in the art. The Examiner asserted that the claims, being of the "comprising" type, were an open door invite to add additional components and that mere attorney argument against their addition was unpersuasive.

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Applicants respectfully request that the above claim amendments be entered in order to place the application in condition for allowance. These amendments serve to close the door to the addition of components that would change the nature of the invention in a material way, as would the cited art. Applicants further request that the rejection of the pending claims under 35 USC §§ 102 and 103 be reconsidered and withdrawn in light of the preceding amendments and remarks.

Should the Examiner have any issues she would like to discuss in order to facilitate the progression of this application, she is encouraged to call the undersigned at (770)-587-7273.

Respectfully submitted;


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Title with changes indicated

COATING FOR TREATING SUBSTRATES FOR INK JET PRINTING INCLUDING
IMBIBING SOLUTION FOR ENHANCED IMAGE VISUALIZATION AND RETENTION[,
METHOD FOR TREATING SAID SUBSTRATES, AND ARTICLES PRODUCED
THEREFROM]

Claims with changes indicated.

Claim 1 (twice amended): An aqueous coating formulation containing solids, for enhancing image visualization and retention of reactive dye-based inks, [comprising] consisting essentially of:

- a) a cationic homopolymer or copolymer,
- b) a cationic or non-ionic fabric softener; and
- c) urea, and
- d) an ingredient selected from the group consisting of sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate and combinations thereof.

Claim 4 (amended): The aqueous coating formulation of claim 1 further [comprising] consisting essentially of a latex binder.

Claim 10 (twice amended): An aqueous imbibing solution, for enhancing image visualization and retention of reactive dye-based inks [comprising] consisting essentially of:

- c) an ingredient selected from the group consisting of sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate, and combinations thereof, and,
- d) urea.

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Claim 13 (twice amended): The aqueous imbibing solution of claim 10 further [comprising]
consisting essentially of an additive selected from the group consisting of wetting agents,
defoamers, surfactants and combinations thereof.